Independent Living

What does this appropriation support?

The Chafee Foster Care Independence Program replaces the Independent Living Initiative. This program targets children who are likely to remain in foster care until 18 years of age helping them to make the transition to self-sufficiency through formal life skills training and curriculum and to receive the education, training, and services necessary to obtain employment. The program provides personal and emotional support to children aging out of foster care through mentors and the promotion of interactions with dedicated adults. Financial, housing, counseling, employment, education, and other appropriate support services are provided to former foster care recipients between 18 and 21 years. This program complements these children's own efforts to become self sufficient.

What is the authorization for this program?

State statutes: RSMo. 207.010, 207.020, 210.001;

Federal law: P.L. 99-272

Is this a federally mandated program?

Independent Living is a federally funded and mandated program.

Are there federal matching requirements?

Yes. There is a 20% state match required to earn the Chafee grant. This state match comes from other programs' expenditures.

What are the expenditures?

	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Planned
GR	\$1,777,895	\$1,640,066	\$0	\$0
FEDERAL	\$3,393,229	\$3,387,003	\$3,015,411	\$3,000,000
OTHER	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$5,171,124	\$5,027,069	\$3,015,411	\$3,000,000

Note: For FY-2003 and FY-2004 the Independent Living program included Transitional Living. Actual expenditures include Transitional Living expenditures. FY-2005 actual and FY-2006 planned expenditures are for Independent Living only.

What are the sources of other funds?

Not applicable.

Who is eligible?

- Youths who are likely to remain in foster care until age 18.
- Youths between the ages of 14 and 21.
- Former Foster Care youths who left Foster Care at age 17½ or after, but have not reached age 21.